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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

DATE: January 30, 2004

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FEB 25 2004

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TO: OFFICIAL  
Mail Stop AF/Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure/Examining Group 1700  
United States Patent & Trademark Office

FACSIMILE NO: 703.872.9306

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/724,287  
Title: PRODUCTS, METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FRESH  
MEAT PROCESSING AND PACKAGING

OUR REFERENCE: CRSL115949

FROM: Laura A. Cruz  
Direct Dial: 206.695.1725

(Facsimile No. 206.224.0779)

**MESSAGE:**

Attached is a Response to Final Office Action mailed January 14, 2004, for the above-identified application. Thank you.

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1700**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A.J.M. Garwood Attorney Docket No. CRSL115949  
 Application No.: 09/724,287 Group Art Unit: 1761  
 Filed: November 28, 2000 Examiner: D.E. Becker  
 Title: PRODUCTS, METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FRESH MEAT  
 PROCESSING AND PACKAGING

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE  
AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 25, 2004

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

A. Amendment Transmittal

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

  X   1. No additional claim fee is required, as shown below.

COMPUTATION OF FEE FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate	Additional Fee	
Total Claims	83	Minus	265	=	0	x	9	=	0.00
Independent Claims	9	Minus	105	=	0	x	43	=	0.00
Total Additional Fee for this Amendment									\$0.00

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-1-

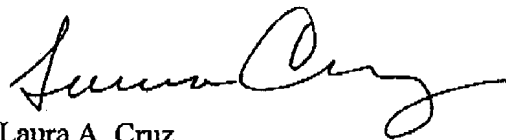
CRSL115949148A.DOC

B. Additional Fee Charges or Credit for Overpayment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>



Laura A. Cruz  
Registration No. 46,649  
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1725

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, at facsimile number 703.872.9306, to be delivered to Examiner Drew E. Becker in Group Art Unit 1761, on February 25, 2004.

Date: 2/25/04 Shannon Hill

LXC:snh

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AMENDMENT C

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 25, 2004

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows: